

Laws, Regulations &

Pollution Prev

Managing Hazardous Waste

*Preventing environmental
damage from hazardous
wastes, and restoring
contaminated sites for all
Californians*

Public Involvement

Cleanup

Science & Tech



State of
California



Department of
Toxic Substances
Control

Public Involvement

FACT SHEET, October 2005

Zeneca/Former Stauffer Chemical Proposed Cleanup Plan Available For Review

Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) is overseeing the cleanup of a portion of a 10-acre marsh, known as the East Stege Marsh, at the Zeneca/Former Stauffer Chemical Company site (Zeneca Site), 1391 South 49th Street, Richmond, California. During Zeneca Site investigations, it was found that the sediments in the marsh contained metals, pesticides, and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) that require cleanup in order to restore the marsh habitat.

The proposed Draft Removal Action Workplan (Draft RAW) describes the previous investigations and DTSC recommendations to clean up the contaminated sediments. The Draft RAW is available for your review at the Information Repositories listed on page 4 of this fact sheet. If you have questions about this site, please contact Ms. Lynn Nakashima, DTSC Project Scientist, (510) 540-3839, e-mail Lnakashi@dtsc.ca.gov or Ms. Barbara Cook, Branch Chief, (510) 540-3843, e-mail BCook@dtsc.ca.gov.

This fact sheet will provide you:

- History and background of the site
- Findings of the investigations
- Options for remediation of the site (Draft RAW)
- Proposed activities for cleanup
- California Environmental Quality Act - Negative Declaration

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

October 10, 2005 to November 8, 2005

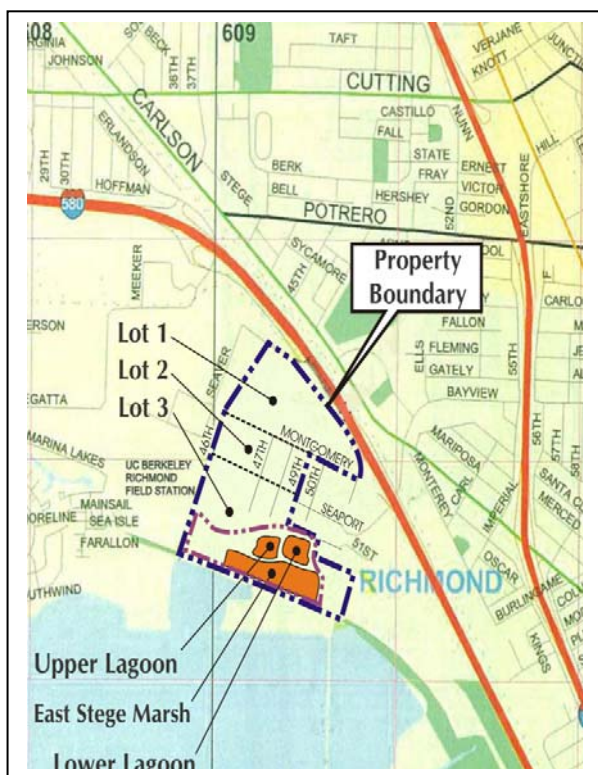
We encourage you to review and comment on the Draft RAW. DTSC will hold a 30-day public comment period beginning October 10, 2005 and ending November 8, 2005. All emailed comments must be sent to DTSC no later than 5 p.m. on November 8, 2005. Please mail written comments to: Lynn Nakashima, Project Scientist, DTSC, 700 Heinz Avenue, Berkeley, California, CA 94710 or email her at: Lnakashi@dtsc.ca.gov

PUBLIC MEETING

Tuesday, October 25, 2005

DTSC will consider public comments during a public meeting to be held on **October 25, 2005 at 7:00 pm**. The meeting will be held at the Richmond Convention Center, Bermuda Room, 203 Civic Center Plaza at Nevin and 25th Streets, Richmond, California.





Site Location

The Site is located south of Interstate 580 and east of the University of California Richmond Field Station. The marsh, known as East Stege Marsh, is located at the southern most end of the Zeneca Site, adjacent to San Francisco Bay, and is partly on East Bay Regional Park District property. (See site map above). The cleanup of the marsh started in the fall of 2004, but work stopped in early 2005 to comply with permits designed to protect an endangered bird species known as the California clapper rail. The work in 2004/2005 was done under the oversight of the California Regional Water Quality Control Board (Water Board). Oversight of the cleanup of the Zeneca Site was transferred to the Department of Toxic Substances Control in the spring of 2005. DTSC is now overseeing the cleanup activities under a cleanup order.

Site History and Background

The Zeneca Site was used to manufacture sulfuric acid, fertilizers and pesticides, and to conduct

research on new pesticides from the late 1800s until 1997, when all manufacturing operations stopped. In the late 1800s the marsh did not exist as we know it today, but was a tidal mud flat along San Francisco Bay. Industrial waste (cinders and industrial waste water) from the Zeneca Site was at times discharged along the shoreline, and along with sediments from San Francisco Bay, the area began filling in during the early 1900s.

A railroad spur embankment to the south of the Zeneca Site was built in the late 1950s and sedimentation of the marsh area accelerated. The vegetation in the marsh was mostly established after 1960. Ownership of the railroad spur was transferred to East Bay Regional Park District and was paved with asphalt. This area is now part of the San Francisco Bay Trail.

Investigations of the marsh were conducted from 1998 through 2003 to identify the contamination in the marsh. Elevated concentrations of arsenic, copper, lead, nickel, zinc, selenium, mercury, and cadmium were found in the marsh sediments. Investigations also found that the sediments contained pesticides, and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). The concentrations of these chemicals were found to be at levels that were damaging the marsh. Also, the concentration of arsenic in the sediments was found to present a potential risk to people who might use the marsh. The highest concentration found was 1,660 parts per million (ppm) and the cleanup goal is 110 ppm. Therefore, a cleanup is needed.

Alternatives Considered

Two alternatives were evaluated to clean up the Zeneca Site marsh sediments.

- The first alternative was to take no action and to leave the remaining contaminated sediments in place. On-going operation and maintenance activities already occurring at the marsh would continue.
- The second alternative was to remove approximately 500 cubic yards of

contaminated sediments from three areas that were not removed in 2004/2005. The three areas are generally located in the central area of the marsh (see map insert). The sediments would be dug up and transported to an approved landfill. The excavated areas would either be backfilled with clean sediments brought from another site or graded to blend into the existing marsh contours. A deed restriction would also be placed on the property to ensure that property is maintained as a marsh.

DTSC's Recommendation

DTSC believes that the excavation of contaminated sediments alternative is the preferred cleanup method. This alternative is consistent with the cleanup work that has already occurred and will prevent re-contamination of the areas previously cleaned up. This alternative is also the most protective of human health and the environment.

All comments received during the comment period are considered by DTSC before making a final decision to approve, amend, or deny the RAW. Once a decision has been made a "Response to Comments" document will be sent to those who submitted comments or questions.

Proposed Activities

At the Zeneca Site, if the excavation alternative is selected, you may see the following proposed activities:

- The sediments will be excavated using standard construction equipment and placed into 20 cubic yard lined bins. Because the sediments may be very wet, they will be mixed with cement in covered bins. The covered bins will be temporarily stored in the bin staging area until the sediments dry out and solidify (see map insert).
- After the sediments have dried out and solidified, the bins will be loaded onto trucks and transported to Keller Canyon Landfill located in Pittsburg or Altamont Landfill located in Livermore, California.
- Trucks leaving the site will go through a decontamination process. First the trucks will drive over a wheel cleaning system called a trackclean. Then, the trucks will go to the decontamination area to be swept and cleaned (see map insert).
- A U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service approved biologist will be on-site during the cleanup and restoration activities when work is occurring in the California clapper rail habitat.
- Dust control measures will be implemented when the sediments are excavated and when the marsh is backfilled and graded. Dust control measures include: a full-time water truck will apply water to unpaved roadways and surfaces; water will be sprayed onto soil during.
- Any stockpiled clean soil will be sprayed with water at least twice each day and will also be sprayed if visible dust is observed to be flowing from the stockpiles.
- Work will stop if winds exceed 15 miles per hour.
- Air monitoring will be conducted using stationary and portable monitors. Monitoring will occur when sediments are excavated, when backfill is placed into the excavated areas, and when grading occurs in the marsh.
- Seeding and planting of vegetation in the marsh will be conducted in the fall of 2005 and continue into 2006. Monitoring and maintenance of the marsh restoration will be completed over a five-year period.

California Environmental Quality Act – Negative Declaration

As part of the Draft RAW process, DTSC has prepared a Negative Declaration for this project as required by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). DTSC prepared an Initial Study, which studies the possible effects the proposed cleanup could have on the environment. The study found that the proposed cleanup will have no negative impact on the environment. You can review the findings of the study in two documents called a Negative Declaration and Initial Study. Both documents are available for review at the Information Repositories listed below.

For More Information

Please contact any of the following individuals with any questions or concerns you may have.

For questions regarding the Draft Raw or the Negative Declaration., please contact:

Ms. Barbara Cook
DTSC Branch Chief
(510) 540-3843
Email BCook@dtsc.ca.gov

Ms. Lynn Nakashima
DTSC Project Scientist
(510) 540-3839
Email Lnakashi@dtsc.ca.gov

For questions regarding the public participation process, please contact:

Ms. Diane Fowler
DTSC Public Participation Supervisor
(916) 255-6682
Email Dfowler@dtsc.ca.gov

Ms. Nancy Cook
DTSC Public Participation Specialist
(510) 540-3923
Email Ncook@dtsc.ca.gov

For media questions, please contact:

Ms. Angela Blanchette,
DTSC Public Information Officer
(510) 540-3732
Email Ablanche@dtsc.ca.gov

Information Repositories

The Draft RAW and related documents can be reviewed at the following locations:

DTSC File Room
700 Heinz Avenue
Berkeley, CA 94710

Hours:
Monday – Friday: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
By appointment only (510) 540-3800

The Richmond Main Library
325 Civic Center Plaza
Richmond, CA 94801
Reference Desk: (510) 620-6561

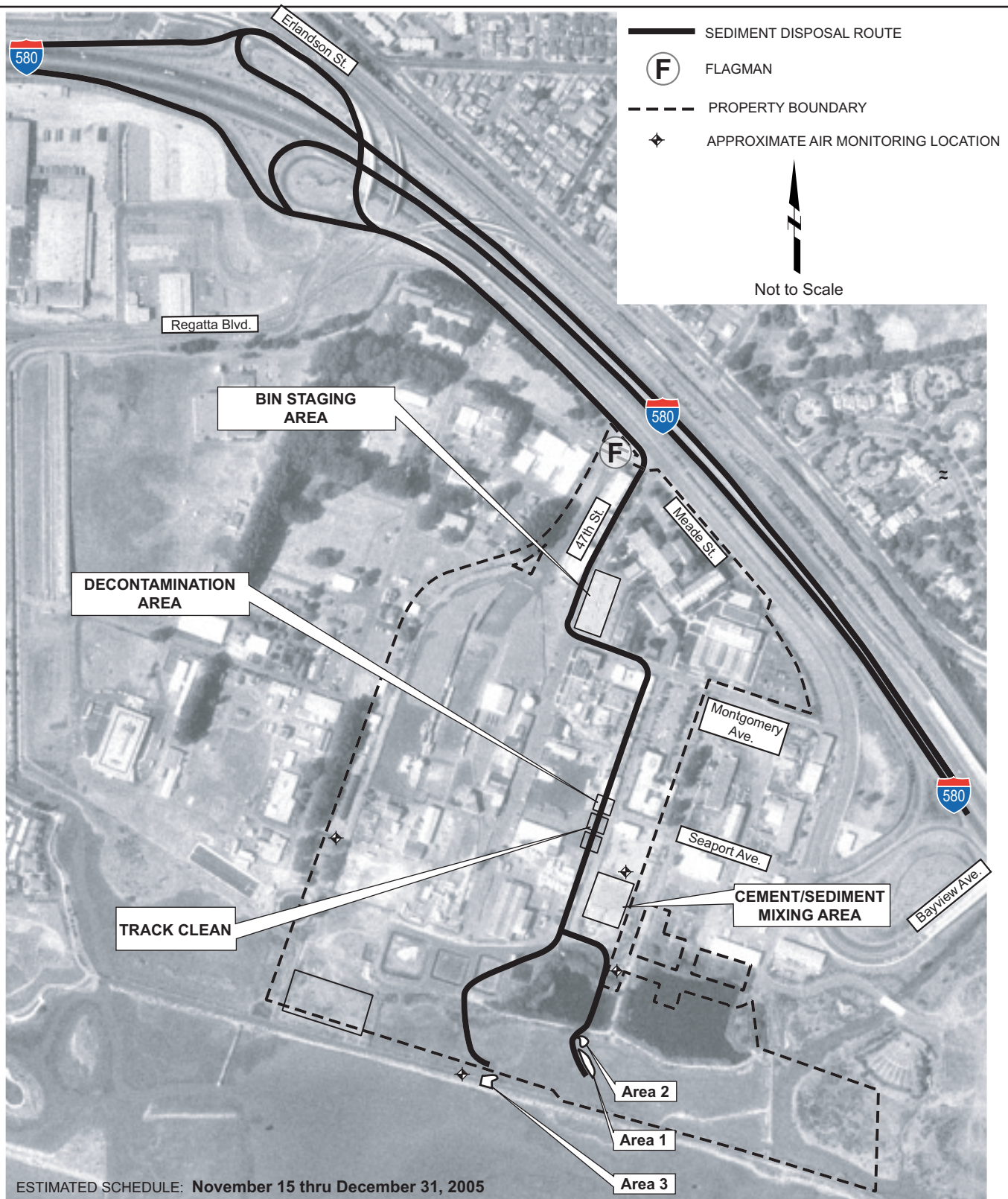
Hours:
Monday & Tuesday 3:00-7:00 p.m.
Wednesday & Thursday 2:00-6:00 p.m.
Friday & Saturday 1:00-5:00 p.m.

Notice to the Hearing Impaired

TDD users can use the California State Relay Service at (888) 877-5378. Ask to speak to Nancy Cook, Public Participation Specialist, at (510) 540- 3923.

Anuncio

Si prefiere hablar con alguien en español acerca de ésta información, favor de llamar a Jacinto Soto, Departamento de Control de Substancias Tóxicas. El número de teléfono es (510) 540-3842.



NOTES:

- ① A FLAG PERSON WILL BE PROVIDED WHEN A TRANSPORTATION ROUTE IS BEING USED AT THE LOCATION NOTED ON FIGURE.
- ② REGULAR WORK HOURS WILL BE 7AM THROUGH 6PM ON MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY.
- ③ ALL VEHICLES ENTERING AREAS WHERE CONTAMINATED MATERIAL WILL BE EXCAVATED, STORED, TREATED, OR PLACED WILL BE DECONTAMINATED BEFORE LEAVING THE SITE.

Work Area Traffic Access Plan

Campus Bay, Richmond, California